

AD-786 216

THERMODYNAMICS OF COMBUSTION OF
VARIOUS PYROTECHNIC COMPOSITIONS

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Naval Ammunition Depot

Prepared for:

Naval Air Systems Command

11 June 1974

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| REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE | | READ INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE COMPLETING FORM |
|--|-----------------------|---|
| 1. REPORT NUMBER RDIR No. 277 | 2. GOVT ACCESSION NO. | 3. RECIPIENT'S CATALOG NUMBER |
| 4. TITLE (and Subtitle) THERMODYNAMICS OF COMBUSTION OF VARIOUS PYROTECHNIC COMPOSITIONS | | 5. TYPE OF REPORT & PERIOD COVERED FINAL REPORT January 1971 - July 1973 |
| | | 6. PERFORMING ORG. REPORT NUMBER |
| 7. AUTHOR(s) John E. Tanner, Jr. | | 8. CONTRACT OR GRANT NUMBER(s) |
| 9. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME AND ADDRESS Naval Ammunition Depot Applied Sciences Department Crane, Indiana 47522 | | 10. PROGRAM ELEMENT, PROJECT, TASK AREA & WORK UNIT NUMBERS AIRTASK A350-350F/159B/4F- 546-503 |
| 11. CONTROLLING OFFICE NAME AND ADDRESS Commander Naval Air Systems Command (Code AIR-350E) Washington, D. C. 20360 | | 12. REPORT DATE 11 June 1974 |
| | | 13. NUMBER OF PAGES 24 |
| 14. MONITORING AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS (if different from Controlling Office) | | 15. SECURITY CLASS. (of this report) UNCLASSIFIED |
| | | 15a. DECLASSIFICATION/DOWNGRADING SCHEDULE |
| 16. DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT (of this Report) APPROVED FOR PUBLIC RELEASE; DISTRIBUTION UNLIMITED | | |
| 17. DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT (of the abstract entered in Block 20, if different from Report) | | |
| 18. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES | | |
| 19. KEY WORDS (Continue on reverse side if necessary and identify by block number) Pyrotechnics, Thermochemistry, Thermodynamics, Combustion NATIONAL TECHNICAL INFORMATION SERVICE 1155 Jefferson Davis Highway Springfield, VA 22111 | | |
| 20. ABSTRACT (Continue on reverse side if necessary and identify by block number) Heats of reaction and/or adiabatic flame temperature have been computed for a variety of compositions of interest to pyrotechnics. One set of compositions includes pairwise fuel/oxidizer combinations consisting of magnesium, aluminum, beryllium, boron, carbon and silicon with alkali oxides, alkali nitrates, alkali perchlorates, teflon, air and a few other substances. | | |

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It has been found that the oxidizers differ from each other in approximately the same manner, regardless of which fuel is used, and similarly, the fuels differ in the same way regardless of which oxidizer is used. Significant differences in flame temperatures and heats of reaction are noted among the alkali nitrates, in spite of their similar chemistry.

Using a perchlorate as oxidizer, a large percentage of the associated alkali metal is combined as the chloride even at the adiabatic temperature.

Of six aluminum compounds tried, aluminum carbide may be competitive with magnesium metal.

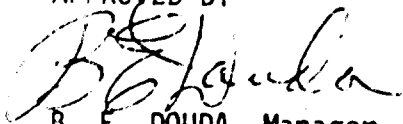
Of six sodium compounds tried, the pure metal, the hydride, and the carbide are the most promising for sodium enrichment of illuminating flares.

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SUMMARY

When new or improved pyrotechnic compositions are being designed, the basic thermodynamic properties of the components and of their combustion are of immediate interest. These properties include the adiabatic flame temperature, the heat of reaction, the optimum fuel/oxidizer ratio and the concentrations and phases of product species, especially those which emit light in a wavelength range of interest. In three separate studies, flame temperature and heats of reaction have been computed for various fuel/oxidizer combinations.

The first study was a comparison of the alkali nitrates, a few oxides of sodium, hydrogen peroxide, teflon, air and oxygen as oxidizers and a comparison of aluminum, magnesium, beryllium, boron, iron, silicon and iron as fuels. About half of all the possible fuel/oxidizer pairs were formed.

It has been found that generally the oxidizers differ from each other in approximately the same manner, regardless of which fuel is used, and similarly, the fuels differ in the same way regardless of which oxidizer is used. An exception is air, whose rank among the oxidizers varies with the fuel used. Of the fuels, boron and carbon exhibit some irregularities. Significant differences in flame temperatures and heats of reaction are noted among the alkali nitrates, in spite of their similar chemistry.

Where a perchlorate was used as an oxidizer, a large percentage of the associated alkali metal was combined as the chloride even at the adiabatic temperature. This is a disadvantage for illumination purposes.

The purpose of the second study was to compare aluminum compounds as fuels for illuminating flare compositions. Of the six compounds computed, aluminum carbide has properties which may be competitive with those of magnesium. None of the compounds excelled or exceeded pure aluminum.

The purpose of the third study was to determine which sodium compounds are thermodynamically the most promising for enrichment of illuminating compositions. The most promising of six tried were found to be the pure metal, the carbide, and the hydride.

PREFACE

The Applied Sciences Department is funded to conduct exploratory studies aimed at the development of better pyrotechnic flares for signaling and illumination. The information presented here is a partial result of these efforts. A portion of these results have already been presented in RDTR No. 253, "Theoretical Light Yields From Different Illuminating Flare Compositions." See reference 1.

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INTRODUCTION

Numerous computations of flame temperatures and heats of reaction have been made for pyrotechnic compositions,^{2,3} including a few of the compositions mentioned later in this report. In order to compare a set of compositions, the computations should all be done with the same set of thermodynamic data for the reactants and products. For this reason we have repeated the computations of such well known formulations as $\text{Mg}/\text{NaNO}_3/\text{binder}$ in order to compare with other formulations for which we could find no previous computations.

For computations of flame temperatures or of heats of reaction to products at an elevated temperature, we used the NASA computer program of Gordon and McBride.⁴

This versatile program can be used in many ways. In one option used here, a set of formulas and their heats of formation are supplied, along with the specification of the relative amounts of each and of the confining pressure. The program then computes the equilibrium temperature and mole fractions of products corresponding to adiabatic conditions.

The other option used here was to specify the final temperature. In this case, the program computes the equilibrium mole fractions of products and the final total enthalpy.

Three separate studies are presented. In the first, we compared a number of common fuels and oxidizers in simple mixtures along with a common binder. In the second study, various aluminum compounds were compared as fuels for illuminating formulations. In the third study, several sodium compounds were compared as candidates for increasing the sodium content of illuminating formulations.

FUEL/OXIDIZER PAIRS

Method

A small selection of common inorganic fuels and oxidizers has been made. Thermodynamic properties have been computed for the combustion of about half of all of the possible fuel/oxidizer combinations. For all combinations involving a solid fuel and oxidizer, five percent of epoxy binder is included, of formula $\text{C}_{5.75}\text{H}_{8.36}\text{O}_{1.15}\text{N}_{0.3}$.

The first step was to find for each combination the fuel/oxidizer ratio giving the highest adiabatic equilibrium temperature. The results obtained in this step also included the species mole fractions at this temperature and the theoretical density for the initial composition.

In a subsequent computation the energy of reaction was computed for reactants initially at 298K going to products at 1200K. This latter temperature was chosen as a cutoff point, below which negligible visible radiation would be given off as the reaction products cool.

The equivalence ratios were computed by dividing the weights of fuel and oxidizer by their respective gram equivalent weights, using the following valences: the fuel its maximum valence, oxygen = 2, fluorine = 1, nitrogen, chlorine, and the alkali metals = 0. The reason for assigning zero valence to nitrogen is that it usually ends almost entirely as N_2 . The alkali metals usually are in the atomic form at high flame temperatures. With the small amounts of chlorine used, the major part of it ends as a chloride of the alkali, which was already assigned zero valence. Smaller amounts do act as an oxidizer for the metal fuel and the binder. However for simplicity it was counted as inert rather than assigning to it a fractional valence, which would have been less than 0.5.

Results and Discussion

Temperatures and Heats of Reaction

The two quantities which are most important in giving an indication of the amount of energy available for visible light output are the adiabatic flame temperature (K) at equilibrium and the heat of reaction (kcal per gram of solid). These are presented together in Table 1. They correspond to the fuel/oxidizer ratios giving the maximum adiabatic temperature. Remember that the heats of reaction are for reactants at 298K going to products at 1200K.

The optimized compositions are presented in Table 2. For each composition, the first line gives the weight percent of the fuel listed in the left hand column. The next two lines give the fuel/oxidizer equivalence ratio without, and with consideration of the binder, respectively. Since the binder is a fuel (the equivalent weight of epoxy binder is 3.44) the second number is always larger than the first.

In comparing the alkali nitrates, the small differences in adiabatic temperature are much magnified in the heats of reaction. This is partially due to the varying amounts of alkali metal oxidized at the cutoff temperature of 1200K (data not presented). A computation with products at 298K would show the various alkali nitrates to have more nearly equal heats of reaction.

In the case of silicon, comparing sodium nitrate with sodium perchlorate, a small difference in adiabatic temperature corresponds to a large difference in heat of reaction. Again it is a matter of the degree of reaction of the sodium at the cutoff point of 1200°K. At this temperature the perchlorate sodium is completely combined as chloride, whereas the nitrate sodium is mostly in elemental form, and will liberate a large amount of energy when it reacts with the water and other oxides present as the temperature is lowered toward 298K.

The high heats of reaction obtained with air or oxygen as the oxidizer are not the result of any unusual chemistry, but simply result from not including them in the calculation of the total weight of reactants. This was done because in actual usage these gases are in the environment and thus may be had "free".

Optimum Fuel/Oxidizer Ratios

Generally it can be expected that a stoichiometric mixture yields the highest temperature. However, several factors can cause this expectation not to be precisely fulfilled:

The most common deviation here is caused by the competition between two fuels of greatly different reducing powers--a metal and a binder. An optimum is reached when the weaker fuel is only partly oxidized. Hence in nearly all cases in Table 2, the optimum equivalence ratio counting the binder, and that not counting the binder lie on opposite sides of unity. The closer the latter is to unity, the more successful the metal is in excluding the binder from the available oxygen.

When the product of combustion is considerably dissociated at equilibrium, the optimum is shifted in the direction of the component having the lowest heat capacity

and/or the most positive heat of formation. This is well demonstrated in the mixtures with air, where the optimum fuel/oxidizer ratios are relatively high.

The low equivalence ratios seen in the combinations of carbon and iron with sodium nitrate can be explained by the low flame temperatures in these cases. The sodium is able to compete for the oxygen and so should have been included as a fuel in calculating the fuel/oxidizer equivalence ratio.

Reaction Products

There is a wealth of information in the listings of reaction products in Table 3. Only a few things will be pointed out:

For all but the weakest fuels, carbon and iron, the alkali elements are present mostly in the atomic form when chlorine is absent. Except for the case of lithium, the atomic form accounts for more than 95% of the total.

When perchlorate is the oxidizer, however, a large portion of the alkali elements are present in the form of the chloride. Other calculations (not presented) show that the percentage of chloride increases rapidly as the mixture cools below the adiabatic temperature.

The metals vary considerably in the extent of dissociation of the oxidation product at equilibrium. Magnesium oxide or chloride is the least stable, with increasing stability for the compounds of aluminum, beryllium, boron, and iron, in that order.

Boron nitride is sufficiently stable so that nitrogen can be an effective oxidizer of boron after all the oxygen has been consumed, and can influence the optimum composition. An example is seen in the case of boron plus air.

Table 4 gives computed densities of various fuel-oxidizer combinations.

Example of a Prediction

The purpose of accumulating this data has been to help in predicting luminous output. As an example, we might use the numbers in Tables 1 and 2 to predict relative output of the sodium-containing oxidizers used with magnesium as fuel.

The heats of reaction and adiabatic temperatures both indicate that light output when using sodium peroxide (Na_2O_2) should be much lower than for the other cases. This has been verified by experiment.

Sodium superoxide should have a slight edge over sodium nitrate due to a somewhat higher heat of reaction and a significantly higher sodium atom content.

A comparison between sodium perchlorate and sodium nitrate is more difficult. The thermodynamic factors both favor the sodium perchlorate, but the tying up of the perchlorate sodium by the chlorine operates in favor of the nitrate as yielding the greater light output. A computation where these factors are combined in a more sophisticated manner might be able to successfully predict the result.

ALUMINUM COMPOUNDS

Introduction

Aluminum has for some time been considered a very promising compound for illumination pyrotechnics because of the high flame temperatures which it is theoretically capable of attaining in combustion. Test results have not borne out these expectations. The failure is believed due to incompleteness of combustion of the aluminum, which is in turn caused by the very low volatility of the metal and its oxide.

One way of more completely exposing all of the aluminum to the oxidizer would be to have it present in the form of a molecular compound, with the other elements being more volatile. A penalty would be paid for the presence of these elements, since they would almost certainly have lower energies of combustion, and thus would lower the reaction temperature.

We have here investigated which aluminum compounds would be most promising by computing adiabatic flame temperatures of various ones, in each case reacting with a stoichiometric amount of sodium nitrate. No binder is included. Where carbon or sulfur is involved and the stoichiometry is in doubt, several fuel/oxidizer ratios were calculated and the maximum temperature estimated.

Results and Discussion

The computed flame temperatures of the aluminum compounds and of magnesium are presented in Table 5. As expected, all of the calculated adiabatic temperatures fall below that for metallic aluminum. Furthermore only one compound, aluminum carbide, gives an adiabatic temperature above that for magnesium metal, which is the present standard pyrotechnic fuel.

It is doubtful that aluminum carbide is promising even from a thermodynamic standpoint in comparison to magnesium for illumination pyrotechnics. Although the former has a higher theoretical flame temperature, this would be at least partially offset by its lower heat of combustion.

ENRICHMENT WITH SODIUM COMPOUNDS

Introduction

It is well known that the principal emitter in illumination formulations is the sodium atom. The possibility exists then that an increase in the sodium content of the composition might increase the light emission.

The final result will be determined by several conflicting factors. One of these is that sodium compounds are not very energetic in the flare reactions, and thus their presence will decrease the flame temperature.

To determine which sodium compounds would be most promising for increasing the sodium content, we have computed flame temperatures for a basic mixture of 3 moles magnesium and 1 mole sodium nitrate, to which an additional mole of sodium-containing compound is added. This additional mole is balanced between the compound under consideration and a stoichiometric amount of sodium nitrate. Thus the proportions when adding sodium amide are: $3 \text{ Mg} + 1.25 \text{ NaNO}_3 + .75 \text{ NaNH}_2$. In computing stoichiometry, several valences were tried for carbon and sulfur. Those giving the maximum temperatures were 3 and 4, respectively.

Results and Discussion

The compositions and computed adiabatic flame temperatures are presented in Table 6. It can be seen that, judging by computed flame temperature, the best method of increasing sodium content is by the addition of metallic sodium itself. Next best would be the addition of the hydride or carbide.

Although heats of reaction have not been computed for these formulations, it seems probable that they lie in about the same order as the flame temperatures.

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TABLE 1

Computed adiabatic temperatures (K) and heats of reaction (kcal/g, products at 1200K) of fuel-oxidizer combinations. 5% epoxy binder is included where both fuel and oxidizer are solids.

| | LiNO ₃ | NaNO ₃ | KNO ₃ | CsNO ₃ | NaClO ₄ | KClO ₄ | NaO ₂ | Na ₂ O ₂ | H ₂ O ₂ | -CF ₂ - | Air | O ₂ |
|----|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Al | 3361 2.15 | 3371 1.47 | 3326 1.20 | 3146 .64 | 3594 2.32 | 3580 2.08 | 3460 1.65 | 2260 .49 | 3440 3.00 | 3460 | 3549 5.97 | 4019 6.95 |
| Mg | 3084 1.93 | 3073 1.45 | 3056 1.17 | 2970 .63 | 3156 2.08 | 3154 1.89 | 3089 1.64 | 2339 .56 | 3150 2.70 | 3400 1.93 | 3053 3.66 | 3347 5.48 |
| Be | | 3554 1.98 | | | 3736 2.97 | | | | | 3607 | 3538 12.9 | |
| B | | 2151 1.16 | | | 3151 2.03 | | | | | 3518 1.20 | 2728 7.1 | |
| Fe | | 1775 2.81 | | | 2727 | | | | | | | |
| Si | | 2855 1.10 | | | 2998 1.93 | | | | | | 2846 5.6 | |
| C | | 1640 .33 | | | 2756 .93 | | | | | | 2236 4.4 | |

TABLE 2

Weight percent fuel and fuel/oxidizer equivalence ratios to produce the maximum computed adiabatic temperature.

| | LiNO ₃ | NaNO ₃ | KNO ₃ | CsNO ₃ | NaClO ₄ | KClO ₄ | NaO ₂ | Na ₂ O ₂ | H ₂ O ₂ | Air | O ₂ |
|----|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Al | 38.7 ^a .87 ^b 1.17 ^c | 34.4 .90 1.24 | 30.3 .88 1.25 | 17.1 .79 1.40 | 34.5 .97 1.34 | 31.3 .94 1.34 | 35.2 .90 1.23 | 27.2 .87 1.28 | 50.3 .95 | 20.6 1.07 | 52.4 .98 |
| Mg | 43.0 .78 1.10 | 39.9 .85 1.22 | 35.2 .82 1.23 | 20.2 .72 1.36 | 38.1 .85 1.24 | 35.1 | 40.8 .85 1.22 | 33.0 .85 1.31 | 53.5 .80 | 29.0 1.24 | 60.2 1.00 |
| Be | | 21.3 .91 1.19 | | | 20.6 .94 1.24 | | | | | 11.2 1.04 | |
| B | | 17.6 .89 1.16 | | | 15.7 .84 1.12 | | | | | 22.2 2.92 | |
| Fe | | 39. .53 .90 | | | 49. .89 1.37 | | | | | | |
| Si | | 26.8 .80 1.10 | | | 26.4 .84 1.17 | | | | | 17.5 1.12 | |
| C | | 10.6 .60 .84 | | | 14.2 .90 1.17 | | | | | 7.8 1.05 | |

a - Weight percent fuel

b - F/O equivalence ratio not counting binder

c - F/O equivalence ratio counting binder

TABLE 3
MOLE FRACTIONS OF REACTION PRODUCTS
(A) ALUMINUM FUEL

| LiNO₃ | | NaNO₃ | | KNO₃ | | CSNO₃ | | NaClO₄ | |
|-------------------------|--------|-------------------------|--------|------------------------|--------|-------------------------|--------|--------------------------|--------|
| AL | .00576 | AL | .00802 | AL | .00590 | AL | .00204 | AL | .02525 |
| ALH | .00003 | ALH | .00005 | ALH | .00004 | ALH | .00003 | ALCL | .03110 |
| ALO | .00224 | ALO | .00268 | ALO | .00174 | ALO | .00053 | ALCL | .00130 |
| ALOH | .00052 | ALOH | .00069 | ALOH | .00064 | ALOH | .00057 | ALH | .00004 |
| ALOH+ | .06199 | ALOH+ | .07261 | ALOH+ | .06664 | ALOH+ | .04324 | ALO | .01123 |
| ALO2 | .00062 | ALOH- | .00001 | ALOH- | .00001 | ALOH- | .00001 | ALOC | .00887 |
| ALO2- | .02891 | ALO2 | .00064 | ALO2 | .00046 | ALO2 | .00010 | ALOH | .00054 |
| ALO2H | .00054 | ALO2- | .03285 | ALO2- | .02871 | ALO2- | .01383 | ALOH+ | .13448 |
| AL2O | .00123 | ALO2H | .00062 | ALO2H | .00061 | ALO2- | .00043 | ALO2 | .03445 |
| AL2O2 | .00001 | AL2O | .00168 | AL2O | .00130 | AL2O | .00038 | ALO2- | .14245 |
| AL2O2(L) | .21810 | AL2O2 | .00002 | AL2O2 | .00001 | AL2O2(L) | .17604 | ALO2H | .00002 |
| CO | .10362 | AL2O2(L) | .19820 | AL2O2(L) | .19665 | CO | .18175 | AL2O | .00002 |
| CO2 | .00454 | CO | .11243 | CO | .12383 | CO2 | .00542 | AL2O2 | .00004 |
| CO2- | .00003 | CO2 | .04425 | CO2 | .00460 | CO2- | .00005 | AL2O2(L) | .14319 |
| E | .03279 | CO2- | .00004 | CO2- | .00004 | CS | .25944 | CO | .12060 |
| H | .03952 | E | .03943 | E | .03900 | CS+ | .00093 | CO2 | .10572 |
| H- | .00003 | H | .04792 | H | .05134 | CSO | .00053 | CO2- | .00003 |
| H2 | .01116 | H- | .00004 | H- | .00004 | CS2 | .00011 | CL | .04477 |
| H2O | .00385 | H2 | .01520 | H2 | .02224 | E | .03012 | CL- | .06592 |
| Li | .28068 | H2O | .00449 | H2O | .00649 | H | .05674 | CLO | .00001 |
| Li+ | .00001 | N | .00004 | K | .28107 | H- | .00005 | E | .02960 |
| LiH | .00092 | NO | .00256 | K+ | .00033 | HCO | .00001 | H | .02871 |
| LIN | .00001 | NO2- | .00001 | KO | .00188 | H2 | .06714 | H- | .00001 |
| LIO | .00412 | N2 | .14655 | KOH | .00266 | H2O | .01605 | HCL | .00432 |
| LIO- | .00002 | NA | .28619 | K2 | .00004 | N | .00001 | H2 | .00130 |
| LIOH | .01780 | NA+ | .00003 | N | .00003 | NO | .00084 | H2O | .00071 |
| Li2 | .00018 | NAH | .00046 | NO | .00213 | N2 | .13572 | N | .00002 |
| Li2O | .00211 | NAO | .00106 | NO2- | .00001 | O | .00261 | NO | .00101 |
| N | .00004 | NAO- | .00004 | N2 | .14531 | O- | .00004 | N2 | .00270 |
| NO | .00292 | NAOH | .00166 | O | .00889 | OH | .00500 | NA | .15560 |
| NO2- | .00001 | NA2 | .00004 | O- | .00011 | OH- | .00011 | NA+ | .00001 |
| N2 | .15541 | O | .01153 | OH | .00641 | O2 | .00025 | NaCL | .15461 |
| O | .01240 | O- | .00014 | OH- | .00011 | | | NAH | .00001 |
| O- | .00013 | OH | .00617 | O2 | .00164 | | | NAO | .00124 |
| OH | .00590 | OH- | .00010 | | | | | NAO- | .00002 |
| OH+ | .00008 | O2 | .00136 | | | | | NAOH | .00003 |
| O2 | .00171 | | | | | | | NA2 | .00002 |
| | | | | | | | | O | .04450 |
| | | | | | | | | O- | .00002 |
| | | | | | | | | OH | .00540 |
| | | | | | | | | OH- | .00001 |
| | | | | | | | | O2 | .00001 |

TABLE 3 (CONT.)

(A) ALUMINUM FUEL (CONT.)

| KClO ₄ | | NaO ₂ | | Na ₂ O ₂ | | H ₂ O ₂ | | -CF ₂ - | |
|-------------------|--------|------------------|--------|--------------------------------|--------|-------------------------------|--------|--------------------|--------|
| AL | .02353 | AL | .01043 | AL | .00002 | AL | .01214 | ALF | .0177 |
| ALCL | .02322 | ALH | .00005 | ALOH | .00001 | ALH | .00022 | ALF2 | .03755 |
| ALCL- | .00077 | ALO | .00371 | ALOH+ | .00067 | ALO | .00451 | ALF3 | .26750 |
| ALH | .00005 | ALOH | .00070 | AL2O3(S) | .18299 | ALOH | .00311 | C(S) | .44550 |
| ALO | .01036 | ALOH+ | .08062 | CO | .10460 | ALOH+ | .18339 | C | .0000 |
| ALDCL | .00660 | ALOH- | .00001 | CO2 | .00010 | ALOH- | .00006 | CF | .02370 |
| ALOH | .00066 | ALO2 | .00094 | E | .00007 | ALU2 | .00118 | CF2 | .00529 |
| ALOH+ | .14229 | ALO2- | .03894 | H | .00191 | ALO2- | .09079 | CF3 | .00000 |
| ALO2 | .00315 | ALO2H | .00066 | H2 | .07339 | ALO2H | .00302 | CF4 | .00011 |
| ALO2- | .04769 | AL2O | .00252 | H2O | .00037 | AL2O | .00296 | CN | .00027 |
| ALO2H | .00073 | AL2O4 | .00002 | N2 | .00273 | AL2O4 | .00003 | C2 | .00046 |
| AL2O | .00629 | AL2O3(L) | .18772 | NA | .02854 | AL2O3(L) | .12690 | C2F2 | .00002 |
| AL2O4 | .00007 | CO | .10940 | NAH | .00161 | E | .09091 | C2N | .00317 |
| AL2O3(L) | .14068 | CO2 | .00434 | NAOH | .00051 | H | .19859 | C2N2 | .00035 |
| CO | .13098 | CO2- | .00004 | NA2 | .00187 | H- | .00029 | C3 | .00002 |
| CO2 | .00616 | E | .04132 | | | H2 | .17269 | C4 | .00002 |
| CO2- | .00003 | H | .04572 | | | H2O | .05619 | C5 | .00013 |
| CL | .03367 | H- | .00003 | | | U | .01990 | F | .07765 |
| CL- | .06037 | H2 | .01043 | | | U- | .00042 | FCN | .00135 |
| CLO | .00002 | H2O | .00334 | | | UH | .72937 | N | .00001 |
| E | .03444 | N | .00001 | | | UH- | .00002 | N2 | .11478 |
| H | .03582 | NO | .00044 | | | U2 | .00258 | | |
| H- | .00002 | N2 | .00274 | | | | | | |
| HCL | .00428 | NA | .42585 | | | | | | |
| H2 | .00304 | NA+ | .00095 | | | | | | |
| H2O | .00115 | NAH | .00057 | | | | | | |
| K | .12676 | NAO | .00187 | | | | | | |
| K+ | .00061 | NAO- | .00006 | | | | | | |
| KCL | .09005 | NAOH | .00211 | | | | | | |
| KO | .00186 | NA2 | .00019 | | | | | | |
| KOH | .00045 | O | .01691 | | | | | | |
| K2 | .00031 | U- | .00017 | | | | | | |
| N | .00002 | UH | .00643 | | | | | | |
| NO | .00101 | UH- | .00009 | | | | | | |
| N2 | .00307 | U2 | .00200 | | | | | | |
| O | .04638 | | | | | | | | |
| O- | .00028 | | | | | | | | |
| OH | .00670 | | | | | | | | |
| OH- | .00005 | | | | | | | | |
| O2 | .00645 | | | | | | | | |

| AIR | | O ₂ | |
|----------|--------|----------------|--------|
| AL | .03271 | AL | .17857 |
| AL+ | .00013 | AL+ | .00139 |
| ALO | .01042 | ALO | .10652 |
| ALU2 | .00239 | ALO2 | .03717 |
| ALU2- | .00007 | ALO2- | .00105 |
| AL2O | .00491 | AL2O | .06623 |
| AL2O4 | .00004 | AL2O+ | .00004 |
| AL2O3(L) | .13498 | AL2O4 | .00043 |
| E | .00006 | AL2O3(L) | .21118 |
| N | .00023 | E | .00037 |
| NO | .01087 | U | .34016 |
| N2 | .79492 | U- | .00001 |
| O | .03002 | U2 | .06237 |
| O2 | .00329 | | |

(B) MAGNESIUM FUEL

| LiNO ₃ | | NaNO ₃ | | KNO ₃ | | CSNO ₃ | | NaClO ₄ | | KCLO ₄ | |
|-------------------|--------|-------------------|--------|------------------|--------|-------------------|--------|--------------------|--------|-------------------|--------|
| CO | .06558 | CO | .06986 | CO | .07747 | CO | .11977 | CO | .07697 | CO | .08410 |
| CO2 | .01967 | CO2 | .01981 | CO2 | .02140 | CO2 | .02735 | CO2 | .02604 | CO2 | .02680 |
| E | .00015 | E | .00027 | CO2- | .00001 | CO2- | .00003 | CL | .02031 | CL | .01458 |
| H | .01087 | H | .01753 | E | .00115 | CS | .19226 | CL- | .00063 | CL- | .00187 |
| H2 | .00468 | H2 | .01266 | H | .01791 | CS+ | .00257 | CLO | .00003 | CLO | .00002 |
| H2O | .01032 | H2O | .02634 | H2 | .01455 | CSO | .00156 | E | .00007 | F | .00028 |
| LI | .13264 | MG | .08254 | H2O | .02936 | CS2 | .00006 | H | .02119 | H | .02308 |
| LI- | .00015 | MGH | .00029 | K | .18378 | CS2O | .00001 | HCL | .01502 | HCL | .01189 |
| LIH | .00034 | MGN | .00001 | K+ | .00119 | E | .00247 | H2 | .01067 | H2 | .01282 |
| LIO | .00716 | MGO(S) | .36403 | KO | .00446 | H | .02103 | H2O | .02702 | H2O | .03055 |
| LIOH | .00721 | MGO | .05507 | KOH | .01412 | H2 | .03227 | MG | .11067 | K | .04183 |
| LI2 | .00007 | MGOH | .01031 | K2 | .00005 | H2O | .05265 | MGCL | .01064 | K+ | .00213 |
| LI2O | .00008 | MGO2H2 | .00030 | MG | .07728 | MG | .05455 | MGCL2 | .01101 | KCL | .11808 |
| LI2O2 | .00005 | N | .00001 | MGH | .00029 | MGH | .00031 | MGH | .00035 | KO | .00154 |
| MG | .08097 | NO | .00406 | MGN | .00001 | MGN | .00001 | MGO(L) | .31625 | KOH | .00312 |
| MGN | .00017 | N2 | .10146 | MGO(S) | .36118 | MGO(S) | .32801 | MGO | .10027 | MG | .11648 |
| MGN | .00001 | NA | .18902 | MGO | .04886 | MGO | .02699 | MGOH | .01323 | MGCL | .00810 |
| MGO(S) | .37888 | NA+ | .00028 | MGOH | .01028 | MGOH | .01060 | MGO2H2 | .00037 | MGCL2 | .00609 |
| MGO | .05814 | NAH | .00029 | MGO2H2 | .00031 | MGO2H2 | .00042 | NO | .00107 | MGH | .00040 |
| MGOH | .00650 | NAO | .00223 | N | .00001 | NO | .00205 | N2 | .00215 | MGO(H) | .31394 |
| MGO2H2 | .00012 | NAOH | .01035 | NO | .00368 | NO2- | .00001 | NA | .06325 | MGO | .09898 |
| N | .00001 | NA2 | .00007 | NO2- | .00001 | N2 | .10109 | NA+ | .00070 | MGOH | .01440 |
| NO | .00469 | O | .01098 | N2 | .10255 | O | .00454 | NaCL | .09784 | MGO2H2 | .00042 |
| N2 | .11183 | OH | .01299 | O | .00956 | O- | .00001 | NAH | .00009 | NO | .00104 |
| O | .01221 | O2 | .00922 | O- | .00001 | OH | .01128 | NAO | .00115 | N2 | .00237 |
| OH | .00861 | | | OH | .01270 | OH- | .00004 | NAOH | .00345 | O | .02263 |
| O2 | .01087 | | | OH- | .00002 | O2 | .00301 | NA2 | .00001 | OH | .02677 |
| | | | | O2 | .00779 | | | NA2CL2 | .00001 | OH- | .00001 |

| NAO ₂ | | NA ₂ O ₂ | | H ₂ O ₂ | |
|---------------------|--------|--------------------------------|--------|-------------------------------|--------|
| CO | .06852 | CO | .08256 | E | .00001 |
| CO ₂ | .01978 | CO ₂ | .00112 | H | .06312 |
| E | .00036 | E | .00001 | HO ₂ | .00001 |
| H | .01758 | H | .00212 | H ₂ | .09400 |
| H ₂ | .01133 | H ₂ | .05296 | H ₂ O | .18593 |
| H ₂ O | .02468 | H ₂ O | .00370 | MG | .14356 |
| MG | .09070 | MG | .00797 | MG+ | .00001 |
| MGH | .00030 | MGH | .00004 | MGH | .00131 |
| MG(O) | .35046 | MG(O) | .38600 | MG(O)(L) | .28792 |
| MG(O) | .06323 | MG(O) | .00005 | MGU | .10086 |
| MGOH | .01059 | MGOH | .00029 | MGOH | .03932 |
| MG(O)H ₂ | .00029 | N ₂ | .00218 | MG(O)H ₂ | .00255 |
| NO | .00063 | NA | .45443 | U | .01913 |
| N ₂ | .00199 | NA+ | .00001 | OH | .04705 |
| NA | .28385 | NAH | .00118 | O ₂ | .01522 |
| NA+ | .00037 | NAO | .00001 | | |
| NAH | .00041 | NAOH | .00442 | | |
| NAO | .00359 | NA ₂ | .00112 | | |
| NAOH | .01464 | UH | .00003 | | |
| NA ₂ | .00015 | | | | |
| O | .01275 | | | | |
| OH | .01348 | | | | |
| OH- | .00001 | | | | |
| | .01093 | | | | |

| -CF ₂ - | AIR | O ₂ |
|------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| C(S) .45318 | MG .10593 | E .00002 |
| C .10378 | MGN .00003 | MG .23629 |
| CF .1725 | MGD(a) .20054 | MG+ .00002 |
| CF ₂ .10200 | MGU .06007 | MGU(L) .32379 |
| CM .15229 | M .00001 | MGU .28220 |
| Cc .10000 | MO .00492 | U .07658 |
| CEN .0110 | M2 .60611 | U2 .08109 |
| Cen2 .00004 | U .01060 | |
| U3 .10405 | U2 .00778 | |
| U4 .00012 | | |
| U5 .10000 | | |
| F .13197 | | |
| FCN .10017 | | |
| MG .10000 | | |
| MGF .10000 | | |
| MGF 2 .44745 | | |
| N .10000 | | |
| Nc .10000 | | |

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TABLE 3 (CONT.)
(C) BERYLLIUM FUEL

| NANO₃ | NACLO₄ | -CF₂- | AIR |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| BE .02246 | BE .04991 | BE .00047 | BE .03130 |
| BEH .00012 | BECL .01479 | BEF .05564 | BEH .00004 |
| BEN .00001 | BECL ₂ .01031 | BEF ₂ .47059 | BEOL .05309 |
| BEOL(L) .48916 | BEH .00019 | C(S) .41065 | BEOL .00378 |
| BEOL .00284 | BEOL(L) .42969 | C .00386 | BEOL .00739 |
| BEOLH .00506 | BEOL .00852 | CF .00842 | BEOL ₂ .00447 |
| BEOLH ₂ .00028 | BEOLH .00589 | CF ₂ .00922 | BEOL ₃ .00555 |
| BEOL ₂ .00538 | BEOLH ₂ .00023 | C ₂ .00367 | BEOL ₄ .00232 |
| BEOL ₃ .00333 | BEOL ₂ .01375 | C ₃ .02649 | N .00019 |
| BEOL ₄ .00146 | BEOL ₃ .00919 | C ₄ .00017 | NO .00644 |
| CO .06565 | BEOL ₄ .00303 | C ₅ .00038 | NC .06693 |
| CO ₂ .00172 | CO .07363 | F .01944 | O .01740 |
| E .00113 | CO ₂ .00235 | | O ₂ .00140 |
| H .05440 | CL .06224 | | |
| H ₂ .01322 | CL .00197 | | |
| H ₂ O .00279 | CL ₂ .00004 | | |
| N .00006 | CL ₂ .00001 | | |
| NO .00228 | E .00073 | | |
| N ₂ .10226 | H .06391 | | |
| NA .20007 | HCL .01122 | | |
| NA+ .00114 | H ₂ .00763 | | |
| NAH .00038 | H ₂ O .00201 | | |
| NAO .00080 | N .00002 | | |
| NAOH .00084 | NO .00067 | | |
| NA ₂ .00006 | N ₂ .00163 | | |
| O .01335 | NA .10686 | | |
| OH .00556 | NA+ .00271 | | |
| O ₂ .00112 | NACL .04994 | | |
| | NAH .00015 | | |
| | NAO .00078 | | |
| | NAOH .00035 | | |
| | NA ₂ .00001 | | |
| | O .04338 | | |
| | O+ .00001 | | |
| | OH .00899 | | |
| | O ₂ .00452 | | |

(D) BORON FUEL

| NACLO₄ | NANO₃ | -CF₂- | AIR |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| BCL .00003 | B .00331 | B .00001 | B(L) .02097 |
| BO .09121 | BO ₂ .00017 | BF .03414 | B .00113 |
| BOCL .00985 | BO ₂ - .00014 | BF ₂ .05200 | BN(S) .26199 |
| BO ₂ .08041 | BO ₂ .00094 | BF ₃ .31903 | BN .00014 |
| BO ₂ - .00298 | BO ₂ (L) .05037 | C(S) .52079 | BO .13511 |
| B ₂ O ₂ .00293 | B ₂ O ₃ .213.2 | C .00172 | BO ₂ .00064 |
| B ₂ O ₃ .18113 | CO .18119 | CF .01594 | B ₂ O .00082 |
| CO .11132 | CO ₂ .00081 | CF ₂ .00172 | B ₂ O ₂ .07042 |
| CO ₂ .01329 | H .00088 | C ₂ .00149 | B ₂ O ₃ .00272 |
| CL .04595 | HBO .00003 | C ₃ .01133 | N ₂ .49461 |
| CL- .00037 | HBO ₂ .05708 | C ₄ .00006 | |
| CL ₂ .00003 | H ₂ .04542 | C ₅ .00014 | |
| CL ₂ .00001 | H ₂ O .00174 | F .04160 | |
| E .00003 | N ₂ .17242 | | |
| H .02536 | NA .33551 | | |
| HBO .00009 | NA+ .00014 | | |
| HBO ₂ .07638 | NAH .00060 | | |
| HCL .02866 | NAOH .00187 | | |
| H ₂ .01078 | NA ₂ .00007 | | |
| H ₂ O .00951 | | | |
| NO .00052 | | | |
| N ₂ .00299 | | | |
| NA .07967 | | | |
| NA+ .00337 | | | |
| NACL .11968 | | | |
| NAH .00004 | | | |
| NAO .00050 | | | |
| NAOH .00124 | | | |
| NA ₂ .00001 | | | |
| NA ₂ CL ₂ .00003 | | | |
| O .01214 | | | |
| OH .00053 | | | |
| O ₂ .00436 | | | |

TABLE 3 (CONT.)

(E) IRON FUEL

(F) SILICON FUEL

| NANO ₃ | NACLO ₄ |
|---|--------------------|
| CO | .00035 |
| CO ₂ | .19664 |
| FE ₃ O ₄ (S) | .16284 |
| H ₂ | .00001 |
| H ₂ O | .01077 |
| NO | .00036 |
| N ₂ | .22854 |
| NA | .07983 |
| NAO | .00135 |
| NAOH | .26280 |
| NA ₂ | .00018 |
| NA ₂ O(L) | .05044 |
| NA ₂ O ₂ H ₂ | .00099 |
| O | .00001 |
| OH | .00007 |
| O ₂ | .00564 |
| CO | .06781 |
| CO ₂ | .09013 |
| CL | .00582 |
| CLO | .00001 |
| FE | .00356 |
| FECL | .00011 |
| FECL ₂ | .00269 |
| FE ₂ O(L) | .47530 |
| FE ₂ O | .00233 |
| FE ₂ O ₂ H ₂ | .00034 |
| H | .00445 |
| HCL | .01829 |
| H ₂ | .00970 |
| H ₂ O | .00551 |
| NO | .00555 |
| N ₂ | .00384 |
| NA | .02388 |
| NA ₂ CL | .17555 |
| NAH | .00003 |
| NAO | .00039 |
| NAOH | .00531 |
| NA ₂ CL ₂ | .00014 |
| O | .00365 |
| OH | .01029 |
| O ₂ | .01153 |

| NANO ₃ | | NACLO ₄ | | AIR | |
|----------------------|--------|---------------------------------|--------|----------------------|--------|
| CO | .05881 | CO | .06509 | NO | .01191 |
| CO ₂ | .04700 | CO ₂ | .05618 | N ₂ | .75496 |
| E | .00014 | CL | .02827 | O | .00835 |
| H | .00741 | CL- | .00056 | O ₂ | .01863 |
| H ₂ | .00756 | CLO | .00007 | SIO | .10133 |
| H ₂ O | .04237 | CL ₂ | .00001 | SIO ₂ (L) | .09933 |
| NO | .00595 | E | .00003 | SIO ₂ | .00548 |
| NO ₂ - | .00021 | H | .01255 | | |
| N ₂ | .14794 | HCL | .02444 | | |
| NA | .25677 | H ₂ O | .00001 | | |
| NA+ | .00016 | H ₂ | .00746 | | |
| NAH | .00027 | H ₂ O | .04639 | | |
| NAO | .00404 | NO | .00155 | | |
| NAOH | .03386 | N ₂ | .00239 | | |
| NA ₂ | .00014 | NA | .04607 | | |
| O | .00741 | NA+ | .00057 | | |
| OH | .01223 | NACL | .18315 | | |
| O ₂ | .01671 | NAH | .00005 | | |
| SIO | .08778 | NAO | .00130 | | |
| SIO ₂ (L) | .25936 | NAOH | .00535 | | |
| SIO ₂ | .00484 | NA ₂ CL ₂ | .00004 | | |
| | | O | .02715 | | |
| | | OH | .02622 | | |
| | | O ₂ | .06834 | | |
| | | SIO | .04496 | | |
| | | SIO ₂ (L) | .13462 | | |
| | | SIO ₂ | .01713 | | |

(G) CARBON FUEL

| NANO ₃ | | NACLO ₄ | | AIR | |
|-------------------|--------|--------------------|--------|-----|--------|
| CO | .00037 | CO | .23958 | CO | .02530 |
| CO2 | .48580 | CO2 | .34170 | CO2 | .17610 |
| H2O | .00164 | CL | .01412 | NO | .00166 |
| NO | .00011 | CL- | .00025 | N2 | .79398 |
| N2 | .20814 | CLO | .00002 | O | .00018 |
| NA | .02491 | CL2 | .00001 | O2 | .00278 |
| NAO | .00024 | E | .00001 | | |
| NAOH | .16936 | H | .00523 | | |
| NA2 | .00001 | HCL | .02177 | | |
| NA2O(L) | .10782 | H2 | .00564 | | |
| OH | .00001 | H2O | .05393 | | |
| O2 | .00157 | NO | .00080 | | |
| | | N2 | .00257 | | |
| | | NA | .02970 | | |
| | | NA+ | .00026 | | |
| | | NACL | .22502 | | |
| | | NAH | .00002 | | |
| | | NAO | .00058 | | |
| | | NAOH | .00561 | | |
| | | NA2CL2 | .00011 | | |
| | | O | .00802 | | |
| | | OH | .01363 | | |
| | | O2 | .03143 | | |

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THERMITE
@ 3017K

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| AL | .00047 |
| AL ₂ O | .00008 |
| AL ₂ O ₃ | .00007 |
| AL ₂ O ₃ (L) | .31295 |
| FE(L) | .54631 |
| FE | .7952 |
| FE ₂ O | .00075 |
| NO | .00005 |
| N ₂ | .05471 |
| O | .00017 |

TABLE 4

Computed Densities (g/cc) of Fuel-Oxidizer Combinations.

| | LiNO_3 | NaNO_3 | KNO_3 | CsNO_3 | KClO_4 | Na_2O_2 | H_2O_2 | $-\text{CF}_2-$ |
|----|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Al | 2.28 | 2.20 | 2.09 | 3.00 | 2.34 | 2.49 | 1.88 | 2.32 |
| Mg | 1.91 | 1.88 | 1.84 | 2.65 | 2.01 | 2.13 | 1.59 | 2.02 |
| Be | | 1.97 | | | | | | 2.11 |
| B | | 2.11 | | | | | | 2.23 |
| Fe | | 2.81 | | | | | | |
| Si | | 2.12 | | | | | | |
| C | | 2.09 | | | | | | |

TABLE 5

Computed adiabatic temperatures for the combustion of aluminum compounds.

| Reaction | Temperature (K) |
|---|-----------------|
| $2\text{Al} + \text{NaNO}_3$ | 3758 |
| $\text{Al}_4\text{C}_3 + 3 \text{NaNO}_3$ | 3321 |
| $3 \text{Mg} + \text{NaNO}_3$ | 3158 |
| $6 \text{Mg}_4\text{Al}_3 + 17 \text{NaNO}_3$ | 3147 |
| * $\text{AlH}_3 + \text{NaNO}_3$ | 2879 |
| * $3 \text{MgAl}_2\text{H}_8 + 8 \text{NaNO}_3$ | 2794 |
| * $6 \text{LiAlH}_4 + 7 \text{NaNO}_3$ | 2448 |
| $\text{Al}_2\text{S}_3 + 3 \text{NaNO}_3$ | 1616 |

* A considerably higher adiabatic temperature would probably be computed for a more fuel-rich mixture.

TABLE 6

Computed adiabatic temperature for enrichment with sodium compounds.

| Fuel Compound Added | Temperature (K) |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| No additive | 3158 |
| Na | 3098 |
| Na_2C_2 | 3048 |
| NaH | 3046 |
| Na_2S | 3017 |
| NaN_3 | 3010 |
| NaNH_2 | 2987 |